



## Alitta succinea

### Pileworm, Ragworm

#### General

- Infaunal polychaete, sedentary worm, growing up to 190 mm in length
- At sexual maturity, benthic adults metamorphose into nektonic heteronereids



#### Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
  - Outcompetes and preys upon native species
  - Changes sediment chemistry due to burrowing activity
  - Nutrient changes may affect many species living in the sediments, and it may also promote bacterial activity
  - Able to transfer contaminants from sediment to biota
2. Invasive potential
  - Sedentary worm with planktonic larvae.
  - Low potential to spread from introduced area
3. Geographic extent
  - Regionally patchy

#### Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Northern European Atlantic Coast
2. Introduced: San Francisco Bay with *Crassostrea virginica*, spread up the Pacific Coast and Hawaii
3. Habitat
  - Marine habitats, fouling communities, mangroves, shallow lagoons, aquaculture
  - Muddy sediments

#### Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast &/or Fouling
2. Natural spread - planktonic larvae

#### Non native locations

1. 57- Or, Wa, Vancouver
2. 58- N. California
3. 59- S. California Bight
4. 152- Hawaiian Islands

#### Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. <http://www.invasivespecies.net/database/species/ecology.asp?si=1068&fr=1&sts=&lang=EN>
4. <http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=234850>